(d) The details of pending medical claims of CGHS pensioner cardholders attached to CGHS dispensary Laxmi Bai Nagar is given below:—

Month	Number of claims received	Number of claims sent to P&AO for payment	Under process
June, 2005	2990	2990	NIL
July, 2005	3420	2259	1161
August, 2005, till date	810	NIL	810

Receipt and disposal of medical claims under CGHS is a continuous process.

Promoting Inter-cropping

*298. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued an advisory to States for promoting best farm practices to maximize production in the ensuing Kharif (paddy) season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Govemment have called for inter-cropping for higher returns and risk coverage to the farmers;

(d) if so, whether Govemment would bear the risk if the farmers do not get sufficient profits in changing their crops; and

(e) if so, the proposed package of reimbursement to be given to the farmers in case they lose their crops due to these reasons?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Govemment has been issuing advisories to States for promoting best farm practices among the farmers, to maximize production during the Kharif season 2005. These advisories have also been placed on the web site of the Ministry of Agriculture, and given wider coverage through print and electronic media.

(b) The advisories issued include important suggestions/advice regarding improving productivity of major Kharif crops like rice, jowar, bajra, sugarcane, cotton, groundnut, soyabean, sunflower, pigeonpea and greengram/blackgram, adoption of good farm practices and resource conservation technologies, use of Agriculture Equipment and Machinery, use of improved/hybrid seeds and care while purchasing inputs like seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government has been promoting suitable intercropping for higher returns and risk coverage to the farmers, particularly in crops grown under dryland conditions.

(d) and (e) With adoption of suitable inter-cropping the probability of risk to the farmers is minimized. Through Inter-cropping the farmer is likely to get additional produce without significantly affecting the yield of main crop. Farmers are eligible for crop insurance under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme.

Connection of Hajira Port to its hinterland

*299. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any need for connecting Hajira Port to its hinterland;

(b) whether his Ministry will consider extending the additional track of KRIBHCO upto Hajira; and

(c) if so, the proposed time frame for completion of the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the techno-econornic feasibility survey, the new line is proposed parallel to the existing KRIBHCO siding.

(c) The construction will be taken on completion of the project development, agreement of strategic partners in financial participation and sanction of the project. The construction of the project is expected to take about three years after sanction.